



MVMAA

MIAMI VALLEY MILITARY AFFAIRS ASSOCIATION

Volume 11, Issue 1

WINTER/SPRING 2013

Col Stephen Goeman— Selected as Honorary Chief Master Sergeant

By COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT PERI ROGOWSKI, 445 AW

In the United States Air Force, only 1 percent of the enlisted force have the honor of serving in the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. On very rare occasions, Chief Master Sergeants will select a person, usually a senior officer, who has served the enlisted force with such passion and dedication, to the “honorary” rank of Chief Master Sergeant.

An individual does not receive the distinction of Honorary Chief without unequivocal support of the enlisted corps. This tribute is rarely bestowed upon a person and is reserved only for those Officers and Civilians who have made a significant impact on an organization's welfare and efforts. On 9 March 2013, the 445th AW Chiefs' Group selected their Commander, Col Stephen Goeman as Honorary Chief.

The Chief's “charge” lists the traits of an Air Force Chief Master Sergeant. Colonel Goeman's character and support for the enlisted profession encompasses all of them, making his selection as an Honorary Chief a simple one. Col Goeman's is viewed and held in high esteem as a man of honor, principle, and sincerity and is never willing to compromise his integrity for profit or gain. His support of the enlisted corps is unprecedented and his refreshing empowerment of our corps is a benchmark others should aspire to follow. He has been the principal proponent for the



The 445th Airlift Wings Chief's Group presents Col Stephen Goeman with a Chief shadowbox during his Honorary Chief Ceremony at the 445th Annual Awards Banquet

advancement of our professional and personal development and has been the leading force behind the cohesiveness of our Chiefs Group.

The rank of Chief Master Sergeant was established by Congress in 1958 and the ceiling was set at 1% of the enlisted force. In December 1959, 1,700 men were the first to be promoted to this new grade. These Airmen were leaders who possessed the unique talents and displayed the personal characteristics required to manage Air Force people and programs. The Honorary Chief ceremony recognizes those individuals who have taken the extra step to make special contributions to the enlisted force. From the very first instance of organized military life certain individuals, because of their leadership,

courage, knowledge, dedication to duty, and commitment to excellence were selected to be leaders. Those in the forefront became senior non-commissioned officers. A select group of those senior NCO's have been further identified to hold the highest enlisted grade. Their qualities and strengths have been tested and proven; they're responsible for carrying the enlisted force banner. Those receiving this honor have earned the right to be addressed as an Honorary Chief Master Sergeant. No one has given it to them - it's the result of hard work, loyal service, and distinctive accomplishment. The United States Air Force is a young service, but the position of Chief Master Sergeant has a rich legacy. A legacy clearly defined by those who have held the title with honor.

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WE ALL HAVE A ROLE

By RICK PERALES, Ohio State Representative, 73rd District

As an USAF Veteran and former Squadron Commander at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, I am extremely proud of the past accomplishments, as well as the day-to-day operations of the more than 30,000 men and women supporting our nation here in the Miami Valley. I am also very proud of all the Miami Valley Military Affairs Association does to support the area military personnel and mission. With the onset of sequestration and the looming Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), I encourage us all to step up our game and get more involved in sustaining and supporting the vibrant missions of Wright Patterson Air Force Base and the Springfield National Guard Base in the Miami Valley.

With the departure of Representative Steve Austria (a strong and consistent advocate for our Miami Valley military community), all local and state elected officials in the region need to elevate our efforts in promoting this area. As the Chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, Representative Mike Turner is in a strong position to continue his relentless advocacy for our military operations. However now, more than ever we all need to support him in these efforts. As both Congressmen have demonstrated – we need to make sure every decision maker in the Country and State clearly understands the unique value the Miami Valley military community brings to our national defense. Let me be clear--I'm not referring to protecting jobs – that is a positive spinoff. I am referring to promoting our capabilities and contributions that have no rival towards accomplishing the numerous and varied missions that support the warfighter. It is precisely this reason that Wright Patterson AFB did so well in BRAC '05. Many were involved in ensuring the BRAC Commission understood just how effectively and efficiently the base accomplishes its



mission. With its solid infrastructure and diverse synergy, WPAFB was and still is an obvious choice for gaining additional missions. Moreover, we have a uniquely supportive and engaged community including both elected, community, and business officials. During the last BRAC these officials travelled to San Antonio, TX, and Mesa, AZ to ensure the existing mission personnel understood the opportunities and quality of life the Miami Valley offered. This one of a kind effort greatly assisted in retaining a record number of personnel to assist in the successful and timely mission bed down. This engagement also serves as a model for other communities facing BRACs.

Specifically what can members of the MVMAA do to help the cause? First and Foremost, continue doing what you have done so successfully in the past – support our troops. With programs like the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Valor Park, Freedom Flight, and many more, the MVMAA contributes to the well-being of our military personnel – both active duty and retired. But there is more this organization can do. The MVMAA should flex its muscles and expand its influence throughout the Miami Valley. The MVMAA needs to have strong representation from all areas in the Miami Valley, not just those adjacent

to the base. It is vital for all members to understand our community's value and advocate the same loudly; not just prior to BRAC, but all the time. When talking about the Miami Valley, we should not respond solely with job numbers and economic impact dollars (which is impressive), but should respond first and foremost with the unique and unparalleled support the base provides to our warfighters and nation.

The Miami Valley military community is a jewel – for the nation, DOD and our region. We need to be vigilant in leveraging our community strengths in supporting this tremendous asset. One local retiree recently suggested to me WPAFB will never be in jeopardy of closing or losing missions. While this would be great, we cannot leave this to chance—our charge should be to continuously raise our voices to ensure we never lose this incredible asset and codify this pledge through our actions and deeds.

Thank you MVMAA for all that you do—I salute you!

Submissions Always Welcome

The MVMAA Newsletter is mailed to the entire membership, as well as to key command offices at WPAFB.

If you are a member or military officer and would like to address the entire membership, please feel free to send submissions to: Michael Ronayne at mronayne@att.net or Glenda Marck at glendamarck@ctcn.net.

The next MVMAA Newsletter will be published in the spring. We are looking for articles on a wide range of topics such as: community businesses, local cities and counties, events, base or community projects, individual or team accomplishments, uplifting and inspiring stories from our members and their families and anything else you feel the MVMAA members would like to read about.

We look forward to hearing from you!

MVMAA GET ACQUAINTED RECEPTION

By MIKE MAYER, *President, MVMAA*

The Miami Valley Military Affairs Association hosted the annual Get-Acquainted Reception on January 15th at the Hope Hotel. In addition to a strong turn out by MVMAA members, the event was well attended by active duty military members, WPAFB leadership, numerous chambers of commerce, elected officials from throughout the region and other individuals and businesses who support the military community.

The reception was a great opportunity for everyone in attendance to connect with both old friends and meet new ones. Colonel Cassie Barlow graciously welcomed those in attendance to begin the program portion of the event. The highlight was the presentation of \$4,500 to the Fisher Nightingale House. Chris Stanley, executive director of the local Fisher Nightingale House, was on hand to accept the check. In addition to thanking everyone for their support of his organization, Chris extended an invitation to participate in the 33rd Annual Bob Chiles Classic Friday, May 10th which makes the donation possible each year.

On behalf of the MVMAA Board, we thank you for your essential role in making MVMAA events a success!



88th Air Base Wing Commander Cassie Barlow speaks during the 2013 Annual Get Acquainted Reception



MVMAA members 445th Airlift Wing Command Chief Peri Rogowski and Master Sergeant Glenda Marck are all smiles at the 2013 MVMAA Annual Get Acquainted Reception



An array of delicious desserts greets guests at the Annual Get Acquainted Reception



MVMAA President Michael Mayer presents a check to Chris Stanley of the Fisher-Nightingale House



MVMAA President Michael Mayer addresses the guests during the annual Get Acquainted Reception



Past and present WPAFB enlisted leadership, left to right, former AFMC Command Chief Eric R. Jaren, present AFMC Command Chief Mike Warner, 445 AW Command Chief Peri Rogowski, 88 ABW Command Chief John Mazza, and former NASIC Command Chief Mike Ronayne

COMMANDER'S CORNER

445th Airlift Wing C-17 Transformation Complete

By COL STEVE GOEMAN
Commander

The 445th Airlift Wing is ready to turn the page on the latest chapter in its extraordinary history. As Spring approaches we will have successfully completed our arduous journey by successfully transitioning this organization from a C-5A Galaxy Wing to a fully operational C-17 Globemaster III Wing. The past two years have literally flown by as the talented men and women of the 445th AW have once again met the challenge of converting from one major aircraft system to another.

A short history lesson is in order to detail what has been going on with this Wing over the past few years. Prior to relocating to Wright-Patterson AFB in the early 1990s this organization was an Airlift Group operating out of Rickenbacker ANGB in Columbus and at that time flying the C-130 Hercules aircraft. We still have personnel serving in our Wing who can trace their lineage back to that aircraft and location. As a result of a BRAC recommendation the unit was directed to convert from the C-130 to the C-141 Starlifter and relocate to Wright-Patterson. Switching aircraft and moving across the state was indeed a challenging task. Coupled with the move to Wright-Patterson was the decision to take an existing Air Force Reserve Fighter Group and merge their personnel into the organization that would now be called the 445th Airlift Wing. One can only imagine the daily struggles of combining fighter pilots with the "heavy" drivers of the airlift world as a new Airlift Wing was stood up.

Personalities aside, the transition to a fully operational C-141 Wing was a true success story. The commander at



that time, then Colonel Bob Duignan was the driving force to making it all happen. Obviously he had the skills to make it a success, later in life he became a two-star general and was the Numbered Air Force Commander in charge of the majority of Airlift/Air Refueling Wings in Air Force Reserve Command. In that role he made the decision to select me as the Wing Commander of the 445th Airlift Wing in 2008. For that honor I am extremely grateful to him; but I'm getting ahead of the story so let's continue.

During the remainder of the twentieth century the 445th Airlift Wing served with distinction and excelled in all mission areas. Through DESERT STORM/SHIELD and continuing through Operations ENDURING & IRAQI FREEDOM the Airmen of this Wing operated the C-141 to unparalleled mission ready rates and flew thousands of sorties supporting down range requirements. The Wing continued to operate the Starlifter through the remaining years of its service life and was in fact the last Wing operating C-141s until their eventual retirement in 2005. The last C-141 flight took place here at Wright-Patterson in May 2005 with the Hanoi Taxi being enshrined in the NMUSAF at the conclusion of that sortie. For

those in attendance that week was a very special event and included a re-creation flight with many former POWs in attendance to include our own Miami Valley hero, retired Maj General Ed Mechenbeier. Gen Mechenbeier was very active with our Wing during these years and you need only ask him and he'll gladly pass along that he was the actual Wing Commander making all the real decisions, or at least that is what his current autobiographical book details.

In the year prior to the last C-141 flight this Wing took on yet another major conversion and began the transition to the C-5A Galaxy. Brig General Bruce Davis was a C-5A Galaxy hired gun from Dover AFB who was brought in to command and lead the 445th Airlift Wing in the mission change to the C-5A. Obviously the Airmen of this Wing know how to handle aircraft conversions and this was another success and in record time this organization was fully operational and flying the C-5A Galaxy around the world. Major construction took place on our west ramp and multiple new hangars were built to support the C-5A mission. The result is a first class campus and one that will serve us well many years in the future.

In 2011 the 445th Airlift Wing began its latest transition, that to the C-17 Globemaster III. Saying farewell to the C-5A was bittersweet but the opportunity to acquire nine C-17s ensured the long term viability of the Wing and offers us on ongoing mission for many years ahead. This transition was not just a 445th task, our partners at the 88th Air Base Wing, the Boeing Company, and HQ AFMC all worked together to make this conversion a reality. Without their expert assistance we would not be the fully operational Wing we are today. My hats off to them for making it happen.

Lastly, our community partners from around the Miami Valley have made significant . . .

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JOIN US FOR THE BOB CHILES CLASSIC!

By now you should have received your notice in the mail for the 33rd Annual MVMAA/ Presidents Club Bob Chiles Classic Golf Outing. It will be held on Friday, May 10th at the Prairie Trace Golf Course on base. This will be the biggest and best yet! The \$95 per player registration gets you greens fees and a cart, snacks and coffee to start, more snacks and drinks on the course and door prizes. When you finish join your fellow players for a steak dinner at the club and the awards ceremony. This year we are offering a Value Bag that includes two Mulligans plus more!

This event has provided over \$80,000 to the Fisher/Nightingale Houses over the years. Get your teams together and register early...registration deadline is Friday, April 26th! If you do not have a DOD Identification Card be sure to include your name (as it appears on your Drivers License), the state of issue, and your Drivers License number. These will be used for access to the base.

See you on the 10th of May!!!



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and is available on line at
<http://mvmaa.org/>**

Help and Hope for Depression

by GRETA MAYER

If a friend or loved one was concerned about health problems like high cholesterol or heart disease, many of us would nod knowingly and say that, "life stress may be a factor" or "family history may play a role." We might helpfully recommend to "see your doctor", "improve your diet", "avoid alcohol", "exercise regularly", and "a prescription may help." These caring responses are also true for someone who has depression.

Ten percent of American adults (ages 18 and older) have mood-related disorders like depression. Depression results from an interaction of stress and traumatic life events, coping style, and genetics. Physical changes occur in the brain of a depressed person which affects a variety of body functions and behavior: withdrawal from friends and family, negative thinking, memory/concentration problems, exhaustion, weight gain/loss, sleep problems, and a persistent irritable or sad mood. Hopelessness and feeling as if one is a burden on others are key signs.

Most importantly, depression is the greatest risk factor for suicide. Young people, military members (active duty and retired), middle-aged white men, and seniors are at particular risk for suicide. If you or someone you know is having suicidal thoughts or says things like "life is not worth living", seek immediate help by contacting your healthcare provider, local mental health center, emergency room, or call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and press "1" if you are a veteran.

There is no shame in seeing a doctor or therapist for a mental health screening. Treatment includes talk therapy, medication, lifestyle changes, and/or self-help. Seeking professional help can greatly improve your overall health and quality of life.

For more information about free depression awareness training or how to get help, call 937-322-0648 x103 or email greta@mhrb.org.

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COMMAND CHIEF'S CORNER

Set em up..." (a lesson in performance expectations)

By CMSgt(R) MIKE RONAYNE

It's been over a year now that I've been officially retired from active duty and working in the civilian sector. I was in a business meeting at the Hope Hotel recently, which is a historic landmark in this area as this was the site where the Dayton Peace Accords were signed, essentially ending the war in the Balkans. While at the hotel, I recalled my time on duty during this war and how I missed my role serving in the greatest Air Force the world has ever seen. While I certainly miss wearing the uniform and leading our great American Airmen, I have to say that some of the leadership traits necessary to be an effective military leader certainly are just as necessary on the civilian side of the house. One of the most vital traits of an effective leader is providing performance expectations. While assigned as a Command Chief, I wrote the following Leadership article on providing performance expectations. My article is centered around a situation I found myself in that was directly related to the war in the Balkans. The article actually is done with a little humor from my past experiences...but I believe my points are made along the way.

Back in the early '90s, I was a young Technical Sergeant, fresh to a new assignment in Frankfurt, Germany. I was assigned to an Air Support Operations Center Squadron, or ASOC. After 9 years in Strategic Air Command in flying wings, I had no clue what an ASOC did, except for the fact that they "work around the Army" and that they have Tactical Control Air Parties (TACPs) who are the airmen who basically tell our pilots where to drop bombs. I'll never forget processing in...I was an staff NCO and expected similar type duties. For those who have seen the movie



Forrest Gump, think of the scene where Forrest and Bubba land in Vietnam and are met at the chopper by Lt Dan. That was me, except my Lt Dan was the Squadron Commander, Lt Col, former F-4 pilot, who upon greeting me, proceeded to drag me around the ASOC compound. I was given a quick tour of the tremendous footprint of the organization--over 120 vehicles ranging from satellite antennas, hummers, to 5-ton trucks. My first thought was that I'm being shown the trucks because I'm gonna have to wash them or something. After a quick, brisk walk through the vehicle yard, we ended up in the CC's office. My commander pointed to a big map on the wall which depicted a foreign place (to me) called the Balkans. He said "Mike, I've got to figure out the best way to get this unit to that place". The place he pointed to on the map was Sarajevo. (Remember, this was the early 1990s, and that region of Europe was a mess with war). He proceeded to say everyone "wanted" that place...I really didn't know why at the time. He mumbled things about the Bosnians, Croats, Serbs, etc, and how we needed to be in the middle of this area to keep the peace. Looked pretty confusing to me, but I listened and nodded like I was General Patton planning the invasion of Sicily. Anyway, my commander for some odd reason asked me what I think is the

best way to get the ASOC to Sarajevo--rail, air, or sea? He started giving me the extensive limiting factors and logistics issues for all the major modes of transportation. He spoke quite a long time and then stared at me. The astute thinker that I am...and in my best New Jersey accent, I said the first thing that came to my mind--"why don't we just drive there?" My CC sat back in his chair, glared at me for what it seemed like forever (I really thought I'd be washing trucks that day now)...and then just smiled. That was now the plan for moving 120 vehicles and an entire squadron to the Balkans. I had little clue on what our mission or reason for existence was...but I was challenged by my leadership as soon as I arrived at this squadron...sort of a performance expectation or feedback. The ASOC Commander did what I consider to be one of the most vital pieces of effective leadership--engaging airmen immediately, getting them involved in the mission...setting them up for success, so to speak. The thrust of this leadership perspective really focuses on performance expectations or "feedback." It amazes me today, that over 10 years after the implementation of the mandatory feedback system in the Air Force, that many people are still not getting feedback or any kind of performance expectation. I was recently the class mentor for the Airman Leadership School and asked the 20+ students to raise their hand if they have received any type of performance feedback. Only a few did raise their hands, and of those, only one or two said the feedback was effective. Plain and simple, this is a leadership failure. We have got to tell our followers what is expected of them, and it is critical that we do it early and often. So many times when we peel back the onion on problem areas, we find that our people did not know what was expected of them and how their roles impacted the mission. Leaders--effective performance expectations or feedbacks will . . .

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MVMAA's Outstanding Military Citizen Award Winner, SMSgt Brian Algeo

By **COMMAND CMSGT PERI ROGOWSKI, 445th AW**

In the Air Force, we affectionately refer to our Security Forces personnel as "Defenders"...because they not only defend our planes and infrastructure, but more importantly, they protect the men and women who work on and around our Air Force bases. These Defenders do this vital job not only on our state-side bases, but abroad in some of our most austere operating locations in the war time areas of operation. The Defenders of the 445th AW are amongst the best we have serving our nation, and among this elite group of airmen is one who clearly performs at the top of his profession. His name is SMSgt Brian Algeo.

SMSgt Algeo has performed with pride and passion while deployed and also while serving his community. At Kandahar AB, Afghanistan, he was the Fly Away Security Coordinator, led multiple combat operations and was mission NCOIC for over 600 Raven missions and 2400 sorties. His efforts ensured the safe transportation of over 17,000 passengers and 2.5 tons of cargo. His flawless leadership led to the capture of 2 insurgents and earned him Security Forces Senior NCO of the Month. He deployed on short notice for a humanitarian security mission in support of Operation UNIFIED RESPONSE, Port Au Prince, Haiti, helping restore that country during their time of natural disaster.

On the home front SMSgt Algeo is a selfless volunteer and donates down time to Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence response teams. He is active in the community and donates hundreds of hours coaching youth sports and is a mentor to neighborhood youth groups. He was awarded the Chaplain's coin for leading a "Christmas Stocking Stuffing" event, a super morale boost for junior enlisted during holidays. Sergeant Algeo is active with his local Masonic Lodge,



coordinates events for Special Olympics and donates time to burn centers and eye foundation events. He is often sought after for guest speaker for "Citizens Police Force" and discusses trends in local crime, contributing to neighborhood safety.

SMSgt Algeo is the consummate American citizen—serving his nation in a time of war, and dedicating much of his personal time bettering his community. MVMAA salutes Sergeant Algeo—and is honored to select him as the Outstanding Military Citizen Award Winner!

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

Board of Trustees Meeting
WPAFB Club ~ 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, MAY 9

Heroes Welcoming Heroes
Museum (*tentative*)

FRIDAY, MAY 10

33rd Annual Bob Chiles
Golf Classic ~ Prairie Trace
Check-in: 8:15 AM
Shotgun Start: 9:00 AM
(*Steak dinner following at the Club*)

MONDAY, MAY 20

Springfield Armed Forces Day
Luncheon ~ Hollenbeck-Bailey
Convention Center Buffet
Luncheon: 11:30 AM
Program: 12:00-1:00 PM

WED., NOVEMBER 13

Heroes Welcoming Heroes
Museum (*tentative*)

MVMAA Board of Trustees Remaining Meetings – 2013

Meetings are normally scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Wright-Patt Club and Banquet Center. There are three exceptions: January, August and December. The remaining meetings for 2013 are listed below:

9 April 2013

14 May 2013

11 June 2013

9 July 2013

August - No Meeting

10 September 2013

8 October 2013

12 November 2013

10 December 2013 (*tentative*)
Board Christmas Dinner
(*Location TBD*)

OPERATION FAIRBORN CARES

By MARILYN MCCAULEY

Operation Fairborn Cares officially dedicated its office on January 26, 2013 but it has been helping formerly deployed 9/11 veterans as they return to the civilian community for over a year. The OFC office is located at 326 Dayton-Yellow Springs Rd, Suite 217 (inside Abiding Christ Lutheran Church) in Fairborn. To date some of the services provided by OFC are car repairs, new tires, computer repairs, food, job searches and information on other organizations for more services they are entitled to by the government. We are also initiating a Tub of Groceries for a Veteran program. We just received a commitment from the Fairborn High School ROTC program to make sure the tubs are full at all times.

We are a community based organization, neighbors helping neighbors, 501©3 non-profit group helping our veterans who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan and are now trying to re-integrate into our community. Some of our partners helping in our efforts are the Greene County Veterans Service Organization, the Dayton VA Freedom Center, City of Fairborn, Fairborn City Schools, TCN Behavioral Health Services, Abiding Christ Lutheran Church, First United Methodist Church in Fairborn, US Veterans Motorcycle Club, and Wright State University.

OFC focuses on day-to-day life needs such as services mentioned above for the veteran and his/her family. We do not duplicate what the other organizations are doing but help make the veterans aware that those services exist for them and then filling in the gaps that aren't covered by others. We also want to help raise awareness in the community about the challenges of returning veterans and help others understand that not all wounds are physical nor easily recognizable.

Every few days one can pick up a newspaper, read a news magazine or see a TV show and hear all the stories of our veterans. While they are heroes on the battlefield they come home to a different battlefield and it is often more challenging than where they had been. The wait for benefits is unacceptable. Between waiting for benefits, being without a job or suffering from the silent PTSD the veterans are facing life changing and sometimes ending consequences.

Unemployment among veterans is well above the national average for others. Among the younger veterans (22-30) it remains well over 20%. With these conditions those everyday needs surmount beyond the individual vet's ability to take care of themselves and their families. The 9/11 veteran finds themselves unable to cope in far

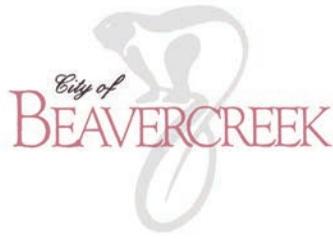
too many ways. They become homeless, resort to addictive practices, have insufficient food, no transportation, family members suffering mentally and physically and for many they take the ultimate step when they feel unable to care for their families and themselves. In many cases fathers and mothers have given up their children to the other spouse/step-parent because they cannot pay the child support. Some parents have lost children while deployed. So many wounds are silent.

Operation Fairborn Cares is here to try to help as many of those formerly deployed 9/11 veterans as we can. The big challenge is to get them to ask for help. Please help us pass the word of services for them. Currently OFC does not keep regular hours but a vet can make an appointment by calling 937-305-7540 anytime. For more information visit our website at www.operationfairborncares.com or call the above number.

Paul Rieckhoff, executive director of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America stated "the tide of war might be receding, but the surge home is just really beginning".



MVMAA TOWN SPOTLIGHT



by MIKE CORNELL

Beaver Creek a dynamic community located east of the Dayton metropolitan Area is located in the extreme western portion of Greene County. The City encompasses over 26 square miles with current population exceeding 45,000. While the Beaver Creek area was first settled in the early 1800's, the city itself was not incorporated until February 1980.

Beaver Creek is characterized by a spacious, slightly rolling environment providing a very attractive setting for many outstanding residential neighborhoods. The city is considered one of the most attractive and desirable locations in the Dayton area offering a premier quality of life.

The Mall at Fairfield Commons and the Greene Town Center anchor a growing regional business area providing convenient shopping, dining and residents services. Neighborhood shopping areas are also conveniently located throughout the community. Beaver Creek is home to numerous research and manufacturing firms



engaged in defense technologies, aerospace, automotive components, electronics and other specialized advanced technologies. Many Beaver Creek residents are current or former Air Force and civilian employees of nearby Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and defense industry contractors serve this significant administrative command and research facility.

The completion of I-675 through the City in 1986 and the building of the Mall at Fairfield Commons in 1993 at North Fairfield Road and New Germany-Trebein Road transformed the City from a small, residential community to a thriving center of economic activity. The City is easily accessible by various highway systems. U.S. 35 provides direct expressway access to downtown Dayton and Dayton International Airport from the west, and I-675 flows through the north and west side of the community, providing convenient access to nearby Cincinnati and

Columbus. As an alternative to motorized transportation, the City has approximately twelve miles of paved bicycle paths, the bulk of which is the five-mile Creekside Trail.

Located within the City are 28 parks, including tennis courts and ball fields that total 315 acres. There are 14 neighborhood playgrounds and a



vibrant Senior Center which includes a Senior Transportation Program. The City offers a variety of programs for youth and adults ranging from adult sports, summer camps and community wide special events. Beaver Creek Golf Club is a beautiful 18 hole Fuzzy Zoeller Signature Golf Course. The perfectly conditioned greens and fairways are a wonderful setting for your next round of golf or outing. The facility also has a beautifully appointed banquet facility that can accommodate up to 230 guests.

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THE AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION KITTY HAWK CHAPTER—COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN THE MIAMI VALLEY

By JON KOONCE, AFSA Chapter 751 President

The Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) is a federally chartered non-profit organization representing the professional and personal interests the Total Air Force; it has over 100,000 members consisting of Active Duty, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve Command, Veterans, Retirees and their families. AFSA represents the Total Air Force on Capitol Hill and fights to defend their quality of life and earned benefits. Each year AFSA holds an International Convention offering a fantastic professional development opportunity where it invites all of the current and former Chief Master Sergeants of the Air Force. Attending this convention is not only very informative and inspirational, but also offers a great chance to listen to past and present leaders speak on the importance of AFSA and other professional organizations.

Kittyhawk Chapter 751 is the local chapter for Wright-Patterson and the surrounding area. The chapter works diligently supporting and sponsoring events year round on base and in the local community, and 2012 was an outstanding year for the chapter. Sponsored events included the Active Duty vs. Reserves Softball Classic, Airmen appreciation picnic, US Air Force Marathon hydration station, Airmen Against Drunk Driving, local professional development seminars and awards ceremonies to include recognition of Eagle Scout and Girl Scout Gold Award recipients. Of course these events would not be possible without considerable fundraising. Fundraising events included members working at different festivals around the area, such as the Sweet Corn Festival and the Yellow Springs Street Fair, as well as the Dayton Air Show in July serving food and beverages. The chapter also held its First Annual 5K/10K run in August and donated over \$900 to Operation Show Our Love, which is an organization that sends care packages to deployed troops all over the world. The Chapter also supports the Riverside Relay for Life, Fairborn Chamber Chat, the annual Fisher House Silent Auction and raised funds to provide 280 complete Thanksgiving meal baskets to Airmen and their families in November. There are far too many events the chapter participates in to list here, but Chapter 751 is always looking for motivated Airmen and NCO's to help organize and work each of these events. This organization is a great opportunity for mentorship and professional development!

AFSA provides Airmen of all ranks a great foundation for networking, getting involved, leading base and community events, and provides an abundance of knowledge and experience. Anyone interested in learning more is encouraged to attend a monthly meetins at 1130 on the first Tuesday of each month at the Base Club, check out our web page at www.AFSA751.org, or follow us on Facebook. The larger our organization is, the stronger our voice will be on Capitol Hill.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBER



MICHAEL A. CORNELL

Mike is a native of the Miami Valley having been born and raised in Dayton, Centerville, Springboro and Trotwood.

A graduate of the University of Cincinnati Mike's professional career has included time in the private sector with Woolpert Consultants and a 28-year public sector career with the City's of Beavercreek and Fairborn. He has served as City Planner, Community Development Director, Assistant City Manager and City Manager during that period.

In his current service to the City of Beavercreek, he has served as City Manager since 2007.

Mike is the current Vice President of the Board of Directors at the Miami Valley Military Affairs Association, and the immediate Past President of the "We Care Arts" Board of Directors. In addition, Mike maintains active roles on the Board of Directors for the Beavercreek Forward Foundation and the Miami Valley Mayor's and Managers Issues Committee.

Other activities include Beavercreek Rotary Club, GreeneBucs, Greene County Solid Waste Committee, Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and County Corp.

Mike's wife Anne is a Product Manager at Procter and Gamble, in Cincinnati, daughter Taylor is a student at the University of Pittsburgh and son Adam is a junior at Beavercreek High School.

His hobby's include bike riding, spending time at a family cottage in Northern Ontario and reading biographies.



Ohio Aerospace Hub: Dayton's Premier Company Attractor

By KERRY TAYLOR, *Director, Ohio Aerospace Hub*



What does it take to attract and recruit companies into Dayton and the region? You need a comprehensive economic development engine to find and vet companies. One of the Dayton region's engines to do just this is the Ohio Aerospace Hub. Led by its Director, Kerry Taylor, and supported by a partnership composed of the City of Dayton, Montgomery County, University of Dayton Research Institute, City Wide Development Corporation and Dayton Development Coalition, the Hub promotes and advances the City's urban strategy by bringing in new technologies and new opportunities by leveraging the assets of the region to prospective investors. By having the support of business leaders, academia and local government, the Hub has been able to position itself as a key engine in the continuing revitalization and reemergence of Dayton. Well, enough said...is it successful? Yes...consider these companies the Hub marshaled into the City and region: GE Aviation, Cubic, Intelligent Decisions, EWA, SCADA Security Innovation, Team Bastech. Let's dive further....

The Aerospace Hub began in 2009 as a State of Ohio initiative to reenergize the Dayton metropolitan area. It has since transitioned from State oversight to one supported and invested by partners mentioned above. Now in 2013 the Hub, much like the City of Dayton, is trending upward. Recently

an industry leader in IT and Immersive Technologies, Intelligent Decisions, has decided to establish a local base of operations in Tech Town. Intelligent Decisions or ID is one of many companies that have reached out to the Hub showing interest in bringing investment into the region. With the help of the Hub partners will continue to work diligently to bring technology based companies to the City and the greater Dayton region.

What separates the Hub from other technology focused economic development entities around the region is the "concierge" approach offered to companies that invest into the region. The Director orchestrates the entire vetting process using partner resources to create a success model for the prospect. Moreover, the connection with local colleges and universities allow the Hub to be able to connect interested businesses with the workforce and technical proficiency that these innovative companies need to be successful once they enter the market. If a prospective company is in need of capital the Hub can make the connection to governmental programs should the company be eligible. The Hub even serves as an incubator of startup organizations that can connect companies to each other that can lead to partnerships where experience and costs can be shared to bring new revenues for the parties involved. When a company enters the Hub, it does so knowing that it enters not just a building but an environment that will help it reach its full potential.

The Hub is housed in Tech Town, in downtown Dayton. Tech Town is a state of the art technology park that has become its own ecosystem of technology based companies that are able to collaborate and reach commercialization. With hard work and the support of the partners the Hub has helped Tech Town to become a center for business attraction for companies involved in Aerospace, Sensors,

Advanced Manufacturing, Cyber Security, ISR, propulsion, IT and Data Management.

The Hub will continue to support the persistent growth of the city of Dayton and the region by attracting new and innovative companies into the region with jobs that will continue to raise the profile of the region and the great state of Ohio. For more information, go to the Hub web site at ohioaerospacehub.com or contact Kerry Taylor at 937-344-8731 or Kerry.Taylor@ohioaerospacehub.com

COMMANDER'S CORNER . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

contributions to our success as a Wing. Starting with the tenure of Gen Bob Duignan as our first Wing Commander at Wright-Patterson and continuing with Generals Paul Cooper, Rusty Moen, and Bruce Davis and currently with myself, we all cannot say enough great things about our community. It is a community of caring individuals who take care of our Airmen. It is indeed an honor for us to call the Miami Valley home!

As I look back on the past few years, I take great pride in being part of this tremendous organization and the spectacular accomplishments that have occurred. Later this year it will be my privilege to relinquish command and hand off command of undoubtedly the premier Wing in all of the Air Force Reserve to a truly fortunate individual. It is my hope that this community welcomes this new commander and continues their positive relationship with our Wing. MVMAA has been our bridge to the local community, being part of that organization has been a blessing and been a source of great joy to me. For your service and dedication to our Airmen I offer my thanks and congratulations to you all for a job extremely well done!

Air Force Junior Support (AFJS)

by A1C JHOSSSELIN ALONZO

The Air Force Junior Support (AFJS) was established in January 2013 for the sole purpose of informing the airmen of Wright Patterson Air Force Base on subjects that are taking place at our home base, as well as within our Air Force. In 2012 alone, 700 sexual assaults were reported Air Force wide; this large number really caught the eye of multiple individuals who felt it was time to step in and do their part. Through the 88 ABW Chain of Command, it was decided to establish a group of young and motivated



An upcoming production provided by AFJS

Airmen that were willing to address issues, such as sexual assault, with their leaders and most importantly, their peers. The AFJS is teaming up with other programs throughout the base to further interact and inform our Airmen. Just one example, is the teaming up with the Rec' On programs to plan various day trips, while engaging in soft subject overviews of prevention on sexual assault, substance use and abuse, as well as suicide and many more hot pressing topics. Parties are also hosted, allowing Airmen to have safe fun, showing them there is no need to be under the influence to enjoy one another's company. A Super Bowl party was recently hosted where the AFJS and its mission was introduced to roughly 80 Airmen. The Airmen were provided with volunteer opportunities that will allow them to grow as

leaders and successful members of our community. Base leaders and sponsors are informed that the AFJS would love to be the eyes and ears to the young Airmen that may need of some direction or guidance. There are many situations in our society that need to be addressed and AFJS is out to be the change through the attitude of serving, from Airmen to Airmen. The AFJS has a team of motivated Airmen willing to change Wright Patterson Air Force Base and in return impact the United States Air Force as a whole. All it takes is just one person or a group of Airmen in this case, with a desire to be the change they want to see.



A recent gathering provided by the AFJS



Young airmen enjoy a day of fun in the snow with the AFJS

COL STEPHEN GOEMAN . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This is only the third Honorary Chief Master Sergeant award given to date since the stand-up of the 445th Airlift Wing at Wright-Patterson. The first was given to Maj Gen Robert Duignan and the second to Brig Gen Rusty Moen. The enlisted members of the 445th Airlift Wing are grateful to add Col Goeman to this distinguished list. Thank you "Chief Goeman" for all that you have done and continue to do for the men and woman of the 445th AW.



When asked by 445th OSS First Sergeant, SMSgt Anthony Johns about how he should be addressed in the future, perhaps Chief Colonel, Colonel Goeman replied, "Yes, I think that I like that."

Military Benefits Face The Chopping Block

by ERIC R. JAREN, Vice President of Social Media
Air Force Association Chapter 212

Someone recently recommended reading the book "Start With Why" by Simon Sinek. It's a terrific book that does a great job of explaining the importance of starting with why, versus starting with what or how. So let me tell you why.

Military Benefits are on the chopping block. You need to take steps to protect them, and you need to take them now. You see the budget; you see the threat of sequestration and the steps being taken to reduce or eliminate your benefits. This is a call to action!

The Patch On Your Uniform

Every man and woman who has worn America's uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor, whose devotion, commitment and sacrifice have forged a pathway of hope for millions. I believe that while hope may never have won a war, or resolved a crisis, it surely has inspired a thousand ideas! One thing is clear, and as Veterans would already know, I wouldn't trade the hardship, difficulties, or sacrifice, for anything.

My sentiments, however, extend beyond military confines. Through three decades of service I have discovered that regardless of the patch on your uniform, or whether or not you wore one at all, you need only look left or right to find people making a difference.

Low Hanging Fruit

The number of studies, articles, commissions and other reports designed to reduce or diminish military benefits is alarming. Pensions, health care and other miscellaneous benefits are in jeopardy. Without strong advocates they are easily the proverbial low hanging fruit.

The Defense Business Board (DBB) recommended changes to the military pension system. It determined the



current retirement plan as unfair because people serving 5, 10, even 15 years receive no retirement pay. My view; if you understand the terms and sign a contract, then it's fair. Conversely, I consider DBB's plan to change the contract midcourse unfair.

DBB also compares enlisted salaries to the top percentile of high school graduates. Wrong again - all Airmen have college credit and nearly 100 percent of the top two grades have an Associate's degree, or higher, far surpassing a high school graduate. And working 40 hours a week; when was that part of the equation.

Folks, committees like DBB, and others, are actively seeking ways to cut benefits. Before you know it, a Bill will go to the floor. What are you doing to speak up?

Social Welfare

The New York Times really got my blood boiling when it called military benefits "Another Big Social Welfare System." Really?!?

We military men and women have shed blood, sweat, and tears and we swore to defend our country, with our lives. We sacrificed during dangerous assignments, lived in tents, or stayed home in undermanned units during 20 years of high operations tempo. We

served knowing the country would have our backs when it ended. Retired military dedicated the better part of their lives and EARNED their health and pension benefits. That was part of a contract.

When You Bleed Blue

Thirty years of service has brought to my attention that Airmen are at a disadvantage when it comes to speaking out for their rights. It is bred into us to not complain. We serve, endure and sacrifice, all in the name of our country. We do it for America, for freedom and for our families. If you are in uniform, you see the threats, but you don't have a voice in the matter. Speaking out is just not what you do when you bleed blue.

Two Organizations Protect You

Fortunately there are two organizations that will help protect you. For decades the Air Force Association (AFA) and the Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) have maintained a day-to-day relationship with the United States Congress, the Administration, the Department of Defense, and numerous other government agencies. Disturbingly, many Airmen are unaware these organizations even exist.

Sheila Wallace, President of AFA Wright Memorial Chapter 212, realizes there is a separation between these two organizations. There has been a misconception for too long that AFA was for officers, and that AFSA was for enlisted. We need to debunk that myth. If you look into the mission and objectives of these organizations you will learn both strive to protect your benefits, both seek to promote a dominant United States Air Force and both speak on your behalf.

Wallace believes one of the concepts that we need to share in AFA is that the organization . . . *CONTINUED ON PAGE 15*

TRICARE and VA Benefits – The Perfect Combination

**by KEVIN ANDRISEK
Veteran Satisfaction Service**

Did you know that as a military retiree, you may be eligible to receive healthcare benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)? Did you have a Compensation and Pension Exam when separating from the military? If you have a compensable service-connected medical condition, the VA is here to serve you! Many military retirees have not registered or utilized their VA benefits due to a common misconception that it will prevent fellow Veterans from receiving the care that they deserve, or that doing so will affect their private insurance status, such as Tricare. This is not the case.

It is important that all eligible Veterans apply for benefits and receive a yearly physical examination at the Dayton VA Medical Center. This yearly exam will open the door for numerous benefits including access to specialty services that are not offered through Tricare at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, such as audiology, hearing aids, and a multitude of other services.

In addition to personal benefits, any Veteran that comes to the Dayton VA Medical Center for a yearly exam helps fund services for other Veterans that require resource-intensive procedures. The Dayton VA Medical Center is proud to provide services such as spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury rehabilitation, nursing home services, hearing aids, hospice and palliative care, and a Center of Excellence for Orthopedic Surgery. By receiving care at the Dayton VA Medical Center today, you ensure that the historic tradition of caring for our Nation's heroes continues.

For more information about registering for VA benefits or to schedule an exam, please call the Dayton VA

Medical Center New Patient
Registration Hotline at 937.262.2128.
You served us, now let us serve you!

COMMAND CHIEF'S CORNER . . .

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save you many troubles and headaches in the future. Here are some tips:

- *Have a plan...Start your feedback process even before people arrive. Think about what your new airmen will need to know to do their job effectively.*
- *Make the mission brief a part of the feedback process and get people involved right away. Let the people how their job fits into the big picture. Each and every member of this organization is critical to the mission and everyone needs to understand how important their role is.*
- *Tailor your feedback accordingly. An airman or a junior civilian would not receive the same feedback as senior personnel. For our younger personnel, simple things like how we schedule leave, or what lunch hours are, need to be addressed.*
- *Keep an open mind, listen well, and believe that for the most part, people want to do well and be recognized. If you don't believe that, then maybe you should be doing something else.*
- *Continuously follow-up to ensure expectations are being met. Finally, adjust accordingly, as change is constant for those who work in the defense of our nation.*

One more quick quip about my experience with the ASOC...that same Commander I mentioned earlier...well, when we were eventually in Sarajevo, he always insisted that he drive when we're traveling around in our hummer. I thought that was pretty cool, being driven around by a Lt Col. Made me feel special...maybe it was because of my brilliant plan on how to move his unit to theater. Well, one day, I was brag-

ging about it in front of the TACPs. They laughed and told me..."You know why he does that? Because the snipers always shoot the passenger, because that's where the officer usually sits". I mentioned this to my Commander and he gave me the same long stare and then the smile I got in his office one year earlier. To everyone...set your people up for success...and always do what's in the best interest of the United States Air Force. You will never go wrong.

MILITARY BENEFITS FACE THE CHOPPING BLOCK . . .

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is for everyone - officers, enlisted, civilians, active duty, reserve, guard and retired. AFA is an organization that educates, advocates and supports all. AFA members need to encourage membership and we need to show the importance of that membership to the younger demographics and help them understand the importance of supporting organizations while in uniform and beyond.

Time For Talk Is Over

If you consider the fiscal challenges confronting the United States, military end-strength reductions and the looming threat of sequestration, membership is more critical now than ever before. It doesn't matter if you are an officer, enlisted or civilian. If you can't afford for both, sign up for one to give yourself a voice. Yes, I am saying that you should sign up for both organizations.

You should ask family members; moms, dads, aunts, uncles and friends, to take action and support their military. They watched you pour your hearts and souls into carrying out important programs and making the mission work. They stood with you and shed tears in remembering brethren who fell in peace and war, all Great Americans committed to protecting this Nation. We need to be heard on Capitol Hill.

Take a moment to sign up today! To make this successful we need our AFA members participating and contributing to social media. Do not wait for tomorrow, next month, or next year - Sign Up Today. If you don't know how, just ask one of your kids or grand kids to set it up. Trust me, they can get you up and running in five minutes. And if you are not a member of AFA, please "Like" our page anyway to support our initiative. Please forward to your friends and family and ask them to sign up:

Facebook: AFANextGEN -- "Click & in"
Website: Air Force Association:
<http://www.afadaytonwright.com>



MVMAA TOWN SPOTLIGHT . . .

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The City of Beavercreek was one of the Nations' first communities to obtain a piece of the fallen World Trade Center from the New York/New Jersey Port Authority. A committee was formed of fire fighters, police officers, members of the community, chamber of commerce and the school district along with city staff in order to design and implement an action plan to create a September 11th Memorial Park. The centerpiece of this memorial is a steel beam from the World Trade Center that was once located between the 101st and 105th

floors of the North Tower. The beam is approximately 23 feet long, 7.5 feet wide and weighs between 2 and 3 tons. The memorial's location is near the North Fairfield Road and U.S. Route 35 interchange. This site is centrally located within the City and is adjacent to existing pedestrian and bikeway facilities as well as several other recreational amenities.

Beavercreek is considered one of the most attractive and desirable locations in the Dayton area offering a premier quality of life offering many housing, recreational, employment and educational opportunities.



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